

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL, LEMON GROVE HOUSING AUTHORITY, LEMON
GROVE SANITATION DISTRICT BOARD, LEMON GROVE ROADWAY LIGHTING DISTRICT
BOARD, AND LEMON GROVE SUCCESSOR AGENCY
December 16, 2014**

Call to Order

Members present: Mary Sessom, George Gastil, Jerry Jones, Jennifer Mendoza, and Racquel Vasquez.
Members absent: None.

City Staff present: Graham Mitchell, City Manager; Lt. Brock, Sheriff's Department; Carol Dick, Development Services Director; Susan Garcia, City Clerk; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike James, Public Works Director; Rick Sitta, Fire Chief; Tim Smith, Deputy Fire Chief; and Cathleen Till, Finance Director.

Mayor Sessom provided Tim Smith with a proclamation recognizing his service to the City of Lemon Grove.

Congresswoman Susan Davis provided the oath of office to Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza and Susan Garcia, City Clerk, provided the oath of office to Councilmember Jerry Jones.

Public Comment

Helen Ofield provided a report regarding Lemon Grove World War II veterans.

Brenda Hammond commented on reporting crime.

1. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

December 2, 2014 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

D. Local Appointments List Update

E. Mayor Pro Tem Rotation

Action: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2014- 3295: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Confirming the Rotation of Councilmember Racquel Vasquez to Serve as the Mayor Pro Tem for the Period of December 16, 2014 through December 15, 2015 and Establishing the Mayor Pro Tem Rotation Schedule for the Subsequent Two Years

2. Lemon Grove Farmers Market Agreement

Mike James explained that on November 4, 2014, the City Council received a report recommending a plan to implement a Lemon Grove Certified Farmers Market (Farmers Market) at the Main Street Promenade Park every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. During that meeting, the City Council received public comment from Ms. Teresa Johnson, owner of the Grove Pastry Shop, that requested the City Council consider another day and time of the week to implement a Farmers Market because Saturdays may negatively impact the Lemon Grove business community.

Mr. James noted that if the City Council moves forward with a Farmers Market, staff has prepared a resolution approving an agreement between the City and Ms. Kimberly Paris to manage the Farmers Market.

Some key components of that agreement include:

The use of the promenade to host the market,

All vendors will be authorized to park in the vacant City owned lot located on the north side of the 7700 block of North Avenue,

No public parking spaces will be reserved during the Markets hours of operation. However, the Lessee will create signs directing patrons to available public parking stalls at the Lester Parking Lot, along Main Street south of Pacific Avenue, City Hall parking lot, and Civic Center parking lot,

Requires the City to open and not charge for the use of the restrooms at the Promenade during the Farmers Market hours of operation,

Requires the vendors to be screened and fully licensed, and

Identifies the responsibilities of the market manager.

Representing the Lemon Grove business community were Teresa Johnson, Gretchen Scott, Steve Browne, Jim Butcher, Mary England, and Eric Lund who provided the results of their survey.

Public Speaker(s)

Ginger Hitzke
Helen Ofield
Eric Lund
John DuFon
Kinsee Morland
Michael Schultz
Linda Schultz
John Enright
Scott Robinson

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez to adopt the resolution to implement a Lemon Grove Farmers Market at the Main Street Promenade Park every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza Vasquez

Resolution No. 2014 – 3296: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving an Agreement with Kimberly Paris to Manage the Lemon Grove Certified Farmers Market

3. Public Safety Focus Group Report

Graham Mitchell reported that one of the goals established by the City Council during its 2014 goal setting workshop was to establish a Public Safety Focus Group with the objectives of providing; 1) strategies to address public safety and the perception of safety in the City's commercial corridors, and 2) strategies to address the drain on public resources responding to group homes/sober living facilities.

The focus group conducted two meetings. The first meeting focused on the first objective. The focus group, through group discussions, first identified public safety challenges and then solutions to address those specific challenges. During its second meeting, the focus group discussed the drain of public resources resulting from group homes and sober living facilities.

Charlene McAdory, Robin McNulty, Ivy Westmoreland, and Amy Hall provided the background data reviewed by the focus group and presented their findings.

The focus group identified the three most significant public safety challenges in the City's commercial corridors as physical environment, intimidating groups, and lack of community involvement.

Some of the solutions that were presented included proactive code enforcement, encourage owners to enforce "no trespassing" laws, or market ways to report crimes, a downtown cleanup volunteer crew, identify and eliminate design features that attract nuisances, or initiate a ballot measure to change the business licenses ordinance.

Public Speaker(s)

Mike Richards commented a from senior citizen's perspective related to public safety.

After the discussion, the City Council requested that the focus group continue to work with staff to develop a proposal that prioritizes their recommended solutions.

4. Lemon Grove Public Artwork

Graham Mitchell stated that the San Diego Museum of Art (SDMA) operates a program referred to as "Open Spaces" to promote public art in communities within San Diego County.

The program is funded through a grant from the James Irvine Foundation. Lemon Grove is one of four San Diego County communities selected as a recipient of this program.

The San Diego Museum of Art hosted seven community workshops between July 14th and November 15th this year. These workshops sought to involve a diverse group of community members and ranged between 10 and 27 participants at each workshop.

Through the workshops, the community initially identified 7 potential art projects.

These projects included:

- Buena Vista Avenue Bridge Mural
- Lemon Grove Skate Park Art Project
- Utility Boxes Art Project
- Recycled Art Sculpture
- Cultural Motifs
- Lemonade Stand
- #IntrospectiveTree

After further community input through a workshop and an online survey, the San Diego Museum of Art narrowed the potential projects to three—a mural under SR94 bridge at Buena Vista Avenue, a utility box art project, and art at the Lemon Grove skate spot. On November 15th, the community members attending the workshop realized that the skate spot schedule was not ideal for this project, but perhaps as a part of the improvements currently being considered. The members also came to consensus that the project with the most significant impact for the community was the mural under the SR94 bridge at Buena Vista Avenue.

Since the November 15th workshop, the San Diego Museum of Art staff and City staff met with Caltrans representatives regarding permit requirements. Caltrans staff was enthusiastic and supportive and asked to see proposals as soon as possible in order to provide additional advice. Requirements identified by Caltrans included a City Council resolution authorizing the submittal of an encroachment permit and authorizing potential modifications to the Freeway Maintenance Agreement between the City and Caltrans and a scope of work of the proposed art project.

Miguel Angel Godoy, the Artist, provided a presentation of the community input and his vision for the proposed mural.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Gastil, to adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2014- 3297: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Authorizing the Submission of an Encroachment Permit Application to the State of California, Department of Transportation for the Installation and Maintenance of a Mural on The State Route 94 Overpass at Buena Vista Avenue and Authorizing Modifications to the Freeway Maintenance Agreement

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to adopt the resolution as amended passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez

Resolution No. 2014- 3298: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the San Diego Museum of Art and the City of Lemon Grove for the Installation and Maintenance of a Mural on the State Route 94 Overpass at Buena Vista Avenue

City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))

Councilmember Jones attended SANDAG, Metro Wastewater, and MTS meetings.

Councilmember Mendoza attended the Annual Community Bonfire, a tour of Rosemary Putnam's historic home, a League of California Cities luncheon, and the Lemon Grove Clergy breakfast.

Councilmember Gastil attended the Annual Community Bonfire and a tour of Rosemary Putnam's historic home.

Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez attended the Annual Community Bonfire, Assemblywoman Weber's legislative update and Senator Anderson's legislative update, and the Lemon Grove Craft Fair.

Mayor Sessom attended SANDAG and Airport Authority meetings, the Annual Community Bonfire, and presented a proclamation to outgoing Art Madrid for his years for service to the City of La Mesa

City Manager and Department Director Reports

Carol Dick reported that KTU & A received an award of merit from the American Society of Landscape Architects for the Main Street Promenade Project.

Mike James provided a report regarding the Annual Community Bonfire.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Susan Garcia, City Clerk